

REMARKS**Summary of the Office Action**

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,236,064 B1 to Mase et al. (hereinafter “Mase”).

Claims 10-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mase in view of alleged “Prior Art (specification of the instant application).”

Claims 2-9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 12-26 are allowed.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a)

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Mase. Claims 10-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Mase in view of alleged “Prior Art (specification of the instant application).” These rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 currently recites an organic electroluminescent device combination including “a second driving unit formed in the pixel and comprised of a second switching TFT and a second driving TFT, the second driving unit being a backup circuit that can deliver the current signal from the power line to the organic electroluminescent diode when the first driving unit malfunctions.”

The Examiner alleges at page 2 of the Office Action that the second driving unit (second complementary TFT pair) acts as a backup circuit when the first driving unit (first complementary TFT pair) malfunctions with reference to col. 3, lines 19-48 of Mase. Applicants respectfully traverse this interpretation of Mase, however, for at least the following reasons.

As explained at col. 3, lines 19-48 of Mase, the first complementary TFT pair and the second complementary TFT pair are connected in series. Therefore, when one of the two complementary TFT pairs of Mase malfunctions, the other complementary TFT pair does not operate. As a result, the other complementary TFT pair does not act as a backup circuit, as asserted by the Office Action.

Even further, as explained at col. 3, lines 19-48 of Mase, when any one of the four TFTs malfunctions, the remaining TFTs compensate for the operation. In other words, Applicants respectfully submit that in Mase, the backup circuit is not the complementary TFT pair, but the remaining TFTs. As a result, Applicants respectfully submit that Mase does not teach or suggest to any extent that the second driving unit acts as a backup circuit when the first driving unit malfunctions.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) should be withdrawn because Mase does not teach or suggest each feature of independent claim 1. As pointed out in MPEP § 2131, "[t]o anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim." Thus, "[a] claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. Of California, 2 USPQ 2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)."

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully assert that dependent claims 10-11 are allowable at least because of the dependence from independent claim 1, the reasons set forth above, and also because any teachings of the Related Art portion of the instant application do not cure the deficiencies of Mase, as set forth above. Accordingly, the rejections of claims 10-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should also be withdrawn.

Moreover, the Examiner is thanked for the indication that dependent claims 2-9, while objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, also include allowable subject matter. Applicants also respectfully submit that dependent claims 2-9 are in condition for allowance at least because of their dependence on independent claim 1 and the reasons set forth above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claims 2-9 is respectfully requested. The Examiner is thanked for the indication that claims 12-26 are allowed.

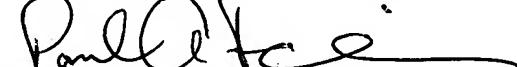
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application, withdrawal of all rejections, and the timely allowance of all pending claims 1-26. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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